



### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.*

#### LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An element for use in a brake actuator, said element being mounted so as to be always in contact with hydraulic brake fluid in a brake fluid pressure circuit, said element comprising a first member formed with a ~~not-through~~ blind hole having a bottom, and a second member having a bottom and ~~pressed~~ press-fit into said ~~not-through~~ blind hole, one of said first member and said second member being formed with a channel through which any gap present between said bottom of said ~~pin~~ second member and said bottom of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole is in communication with the outside of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole.

2. (Currently Amended) The element claimed in claim 1 wherein said channel is defined by a cylindrical inner periphery of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole and a flat cut surface formed on the outer periphery of a portion of said second member which is ~~pressed~~ press-fit into said hole.

3. (Currently Amended) The element of claim 1 wherein said channel is a groove formed in one of the outer periphery of said second member and the inner periphery of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole.

4. (Currently Amended) The element of claim 1 wherein said bottom of said second member and said bottom of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole are shaped so as to contact each other only at central portion of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole with the edge of the bottom of said pin spaced from the bottom of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole when said second member is ~~pressed~~ press-fit into said ~~not-through~~ blind hole.

5. (Currently Amended) The element of claim 4 wherein the bottom of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole has the shape of a ~~concave~~ convex cone.

6. (Currently Amended) The element of claim 4 wherein one of the bottom of said second member and the bottom of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole has the shape of a concave cone having a first apex angle, and the other of the bottom of said second member and the bottom of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole has the shape of a convex cone having a second apex angle, said first apex angle being different from said second apex angle.

7. (Currently Amended) The element of claim 2 wherein said bottom of said second member and said bottom of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole are shaped so as to contact each other only at central portion of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole with the edge of the bottom of said pin spaced from the bottom of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole when said second member is ~~pressed~~ press-fit into said ~~not-through~~ blind hole.

8. (Currently Amended) The element of claim 3 wherein said bottom of said second member and said bottom of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole are shaped so

as to contact each other only at central portion of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole with the edge of the bottom of said pin spaced from the bottom of said ~~not-through~~ blind hole when said second member is ~~pressed~~ press-fit into said ~~not-through~~ blind hole.